

Message Text

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S E C R E T MADRID 6126

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIO (JUAN CARLOS)

SUBJ: JUAN CARLOS' VISIT TO THE US

1. I SAW PRINCE JUAN CARLOS IN PLAMA DE MALLORCA ON SEPTEMBER 3 TO GO OVER A NUMBER OF MATTERS WITH HIM PRIOR TO MY RETURN TO WASHINGTON LATER THIS WEEK ON CONSULTATION.
2. I REFERRED TO THE PRESIDENT'S INVITATION TO JUAN CARLOS TO VISIT THE US AT SOME MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE DATE AND RECALLED THAT HE HAD EXPRESSED TO ME HIS PREFERENCE NOT TO MAKE THE VISIT UNTIL AFTER THE US-SPANISH NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN COMPLETED. I SAID THAT WE WANTED THE VISIT TO BE A SUCCESSFUL AND USEFUL ONE AND IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO ME TO HAVE SOME INDICATION OF HIS PRESENT THINKING ON TIMING. I ALSO GAVE JUAN CARLOS A FAIRLY FULL BRIEFING ON THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND SAID THAT AT PRESENT IT DID NOT LOOK AS IF WE WOULD COMPLETE THE NEGOTIATIONS BY THE EXPIRY DATE OF THE PRESENT AGREEMENT ON SEPTEMBER 25. I EXPLAINED RATHER FULLY CORINA'S "HANG UP" WITH RESPECT TO THE "NEW DEFENSE RELATIONSHIP".
3. JUAN CARLOS EXPRESSED HIMSELF AS CONCERNED OVER THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH, HE SAID, WAS DUE IN PART TO THE SENSE OF FRUSTRATION AND STAGNATION BROUGHT ABOUT BY FRANCO'S CONTINUED PRESENCE AS CHIEF OF STATE. JUAN CARLOS INDICATED THAT HE WOULD PREFER NOT TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE AGREEMENT WHICH MIGHT BE THE CASE IF HE WENT TO THE US BEFORE COMPLETION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. HE, THEREFORE, WOULD PREFER

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TO MAKE NO DECISION ABOUT TIMING UNTIL THE END OF THIS MONTH WHEN

THERE MAY BE A BETTER FIX ON THE OUTCOME OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

4. JUAN CARLOS IS CLEARLY MOST APPRECIATIVE OF THE PRESIDENT'S INVITATION AND BELIEVES THAT A VISIT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HIM, BUT HE DOES NOT WANT TO COMMIT HIMSELF TO ANY TIMING AT THIS MOMENT. I TOLD JUAN CARLOS THAT I WOULD DISCUSS VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES FOR TIMEING WHEN I WAS IN WASHINGTON AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH HIM AS SOON AS I RETURNED TO MADRID.

STABLER

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